Abstract of the Disclosure

A tongs monitor for monitoring the tightening of tubing, casings, and sucker rods of a well is selectively operable in a learning mode and a monitoring mode. A target tightness value is determined during the learning mode. Subsequent tightness values are then compared to the target value. For example, a first connection is tightened in a conventional manner, while its tightness is monitored during the learning mode. If the tightening process went well, then an operator pushes a button that tells the monitor to remember how tight the first connection was tightened. The tightness value of that first joint then becomes the target tightness value for any subsequent joints. As additional joints are tightened, their tightness are monitored and compared to the first one to ensure that all the joints are as good as the first one within an allowable tolerance.